GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1324
ANSWERED ON:09.02.2017
Accessibility to Safe Drinking Water
Khan Shri Md. Badariddoza

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is among top 10 countries in the world with the largest number of people living without access to safe drinking water;

(b) if so, the number of people living without access to safe drinking water in the country as on date, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by the Government to provide safe drinking water?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)
(a) & (b) Mandate of this Ministry in this respect is limited to rural water supply. As per information provided by States on online portal i.e. Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of this Ministry, 411.37 Lakhs rural population or about 4.56% of the rural population in the country do not have access to safe drinking water. The State-wise details of population without access of safe drinking water are at Annexure.
However, as per the report of Water Aid released on 22nd March, 2016, India is among top 10 countries in the world with the largest absolute number of people living without access to safe water. However, this report covers the comprehensive details of the whole country including urban population.
(c) Rural Drinking Water Supply is a State subject. However, this Ministry provides financial & technical assistance to States to supplement their efforts to improve the drinking water supply to rural population through National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). For this, there is a provision of Rs. 6000 crore in 2016-17, out of which Rs. 4192.01 crores has already been released to various States as on 05.02.2017.